

**REMARKS**

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated November 26, 2003, which set a three-month period for response. Filed herewith is a Request for a Two-month Extension of Time, making this amendment due by April 26, 2004.

Claims 24-46 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action, the numbering of the claims was objected to under 37 CFR 1.126. Misnumbered claims 1-23 were renumbered as claims 24-46. Claim 30 was objected to for an informality. The specification was objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the subject matter of claims 3-33, relating to an embodiment where both the electrode 56 and electrode plate 76 are used at the same time. Claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Applicants note with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 24-28 and 30-46, and the conditional allowability of claim 29, if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the present amendment, claim 24 has been amended to refer to the "electrode" correctly as the "electrode plate". This change obviates the objection to the specification stated on page 2 of the Office Action.

In addition, in line 9, claim 24 has been amended to refer to "the electrode plate (56, 76)". The electrode plates according to Figs. 2 and 6 only have

different reference numerals because they have a different form, not, however, because they have a different function. The Applicants respectfully submit that this correction more clearly indicates that an electrode of one or the other type is intended. The form of the electrode is provided from the position of the wiper lips. This is specifically disclosed in the original disclosures on page 4, second and third paragraphs.

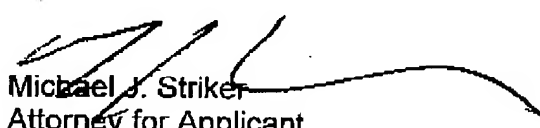
Claims 29 and 30 have been amended to address the stated objection and rejection under Section 112, second paragraph.

The remaining claims have been amended to adopt standard U.S. claim format and language.

Therefore, because it is believed that all of the formal matters raised in the Office Action have been addressed, claims 24-46 now stand in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited.

Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss appropriate claim language that will place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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